

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /070 W
-----027397 091046Z /21

R 090650Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6986
INFO AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCPAC
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0977

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PGOV PDIP ECON MP
SUBJECT: MAURITIUS WEEKLY REVIEW - SEPTEMBER 9 - SUMMARY

REF: PORT LOUIS 0946 021310Z SEP 77

1. THE LEADER OF THE UNION DEMOCRATIC MAURICIENNE (UDM) TOUCHED OFF A ROUND OF EDITORIAL COMMENTARY IN THE MEDIA DURING A SEPT 2 PRESS CONFERENCE WHEN HE INVITED ALL TRUE SOCIALIST FORCES TO RALLY BEHIND THE UDM TO MAKE SOCIALISM A POLITICAL REALITY IN MAURITIUS. HE CHARGED THAT NEITHER LABOR NOR THE MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT (MMM) COULD BRING ABOUT SOCIALISM. IN FACT HE SAW EVIDENCE THAT THE RULING GOVERNMENT ALLIANCE AND THE MMM WERE ANGLING TOWARD A COALITION.

2. A FEW DAYS LATER DUVAL, HEAD OF THE MAURITIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PMSD) WHICH IN CONJUNCTION WITH LABOR FORMS THE PRESENT
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COALITION GOVERNMENT, STATED THAT HIS PARTY WOULD NOT OBJECT TO THE MMM'S PRESENCE INSIDE THE GOVERNMENT. AND IN A SPEECH ON SEPTEMBER 5 PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM REPEATED HIS CALL FOR ALL PARTIES TO JOIN TOGETHER IN A GRAND ALLIANCE. BUT THE MMM'S BERENGER ONCE MORE SPURNED THE INVITATION.

3. AN OFFICIAL MEDICAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S

OFFICE SAID NOTHING WAS "ALARMING OR ABNORMAL" ABOUT HIS CURRENT STATE OF HEALTH, BUT MENTIONED THAT HE SHOULD PROBABLY SLOW DOWN.

4. RAMGOOLAM, APPARENTLY UNPERTURBED BY HIS DOCTORS' ADVICE, SET OFF SEPTEMBER 7 ON AN INTERNATIONAL MISSION THAT WILL TAKE HIM TO PARIS, LONDON, COPENHAGEN, WASHINGTON, AND NEW YORK WHERE HE WILL ADDRESS THE UNGA ON SEPTEMBER 27.

5. THE DAY THE PRIME MINISTER DEPARTED BERENGER CALLED FOR THE NATIONALIZATION OF ALL PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS AS WELL AS THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM. THE MMM LEADER PROPOSED THE NATIONALIZATIONS IN ORDER TO STOP THE GRAFT AND ABUSE IN THE SECONDARY EDUCATION AREA, AND TO CREATE A MORE EFFICIENT, RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM.

6. THE MMM'S NEWSPAPER, LE MILITANT, PAID DAMAGES OF RS 39,000 TO THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE FOLLOWING A DEFAMATION SUIT THAT HAD RESULTED FROM AN ARTICLE IT PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER, 1976. THE PAPER PRINTED AN APOLOGY ON ITS FRONT PAGE, AND IN TWO OTHER PORT LOUIS DAILIES.

7. HERVE MASSON, WHO RECENTLY RESIGNED FROM THE MMM CENTRAL COMMITTEE, LEVELLED SOME PARTING SHOTS AT HIS PARTY'S LEADERSHIP AS HE PREPARED TO DEPART MAURITIUS INDEFINITELY FOR FRANCE. HE PREDICTED THE DEMISE OF THE MMM IF ITS CURRENT

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"BOURGEOIS" LEADERSHIP DID NOT CHANGE ITS WAYS RADICALLY AND RETURN THE PARTY TO THE TENETS OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE, CONCENTRATING ITS POWER BASE EXCLUSIVELY IN THE WORKING CLASS.

8. CONSUMERS' MORALE RECEIVED A BOOST THIS WEEK WHEN THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED A 12 CENT (PER HALF POUND) DECREASE IN THE PRICE OF SUBSIDIZED RICE, ONE OF THE BASIC FOOD STAPLES OF THE POPULATION.
BROWN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1331548
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAURITIUS WEEKLY REVIEW - SEPTEMBER 9 - SUMMARY
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PDIP, ECON, MP
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Review Markings:
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